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## March 18.

The President, JOHN CADWALADER, A.M., LL.D., in the Chair.  
Thirty-six persons present.

A paper entitled "A Study of the Orthopterous Genus *Mermiria Stål*", by JAMES A. G. REHN, was presented for publication.

The deaths of the following members were announced:

Charles J. Bender.

Francis A. Cunningham.

The death of Raphael Blanchard, a correspondent, was also reported.

*Oyster Farms of Delaware Bay.*—DR. PILSBRY spoke of the oyster industry of Delaware Bay, illustrating his remarks with photographs taken mainly on Maurice River, New Jersey. The processes of oyster cultivation were described. In Maurice River Cove the beds are seeded from oysters dredged in deeper parts of the Bay, but probably reproduction on the spot is the chief source of the supply. On mud bottom a cultch of oyster shells is first scattered. This is not necessary on sand or gravel bottom. The situation of these beds, remote from any source of sewage, insures a wholesome food supply, free of pathologic bacteria. The processes and apparatus of dredging, freshening ("drinking"), and culling were shown by lantern illustrations. In the autumn months the oysters cannot remain in the floats, in which they absorb fresh water, more than 24 hours. At the time of the speaker's visit (January), about 400 schooners were in commission.

The subject was further discussed by the President, who had long been interested in the development of this industry, and by Dr. Henry Skinner.

The following was ordered to be printed.